

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) today announced that Luis Giles from Godinez Fundamental High School is the winner of the 2010 Congressional Art Competition and a \$10,000 scholarship to the Art Institute of California. Giles' artwork, a graphic piece titled "Falling Apart... So Very Sad," will represent California's 47th Congressional District in the U.S. Capitol, where it will be displayed for one year.

"Luis is an extremely talented artist with a bright future," said Rep. Sanchez. "At a time when budget cuts are forcing many Orange County schools to scale back art and music programs, I think it's important to recognize and encourage young artists. The Congressional Art Competition gives our community the opportunity to do that. I also want to recognize Luis' art teacher, Helen Seigel, for mentoring this very special student."

Since 1982, the Congressional Art Competition has given Members of Congress the opportunity to encourage the artistic talents of their young constituents. In addition to Giles, four other artists were recognized for their work in this year's competition. Shireen Khatatba from Magnolia High School won second place and a \$3,000 Art Institute scholarship. Bao Nguyen from Bolsa Grande High School won third place and a \$1,000 Art Institute scholarship. Maria Elena Marcial from Godinez Fundamental High School and Tuyen Nguyen from Bolsa Grande High School won fourth and fifth place honorable mentions, respectively.

The winners in this year's competition were determined by an impartial panel of five area art experts: Aimee Aul, Fullerton Museum Center Educator, Phillip Marquez, Interim Gallery Director at Santa Ana College, Genevieve Southgate, Assistant Director of Education at Bowers Museum, and Richard Turner, Professor of Art and Co-Director at Chapman University's Guggenheim Gallery.